

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An extended release composition comprising
as active compound Venlafaxine Hydrochloride, in which Venlafaxine Hydrochloride is coated on a non pareil inert core,
_____ which coated core is coated with an isolating layer providing at least one function of isolating, protecting and separating, and
_____ is then coated with a controlled release polymeric layer which enables the controlled release of the Venlafaxine Hydrochloride over an extended time period.

2. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition comprises 30-60% of Venlafaxine Hydrochloride per weight of the total dosage form.

3. (Previously Presented) A composition according to 1, wherein the Venlafaxine Hydrochloride is suitably connected to a binder.

4. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 3, wherein the binder is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl pyrrolidone, hydroxypropylcellulose and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

5. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 4, wherein the composition comprises 0.5%-10% of the binder per weight of the total dosage form.

6. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 5, wherein the non pareil inert core is an inert sugar core or a microcrystalline cellulose core.

7. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 6, which comprises 30-60% of the core per weight of the total dosage form.

Claim 8 (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim ~~8~~ 7, wherein the isolating layer is composed of at least one hydrophilic polymer selected from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, microcrystalline, cellulose, carrageenan, and GMS.

10. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 9, wherein the isolating layer comprises 0.5-10% of the weight of the total dosage form.

Claim 11 (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A composition according to ~~claim 11~~ 10, wherein ~~said additional~~ the controlled release polymeric layer is composed of a hydrophobic polymer mixed with an appropriate hydrophobic or hydrophilic plasticizer.

13. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim 12, wherein ~~said coating~~ the hydrophobic polymer is selected from the group consisting of Eudragit and a cellulose derivative, and said plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of castor oil, dibutyl sebacate, glyceryl monostearate, diethyl phalate, glyceryl trihepthanoate, and triethyl citrate.

14. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 13, which comprises 2-15% of the hydrophobic polymer per weight of the total dosage form; and 0.1-2% per weight of the hydrophobic plasticizer per weight of the total dosage form.

15. (Previously Presented) A composition according to 2, wherein the Venlafaxine Hydrochloride is suitably mixed with a binder.

16. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 15, wherein the binder is selected from the group consisting of polyvinyl pyrrolidone, hydroxypropylcellulose and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

17. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 16, wherein the composition comprises 0.5%-10% of the binder per weight of the total dosage form.

18. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 3, wherein the composition comprises 0.5%-10% of the binder per weight of the total dosage form.

19. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 1, wherein the non pareil inert core comprises inert sugar or microcrystalline cellulose.

20. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 1, which comprises 30-60% of the core per weight of the total dosage form.

Claim 21 (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim ~~21~~, 20 wherein the layer providing at least one function of isolating, protecting and separating is composed of a polymer selected from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, microcrystalline, cellulose, carrageenan, and GMS.

23. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 8, wherein the isolating layer comprises 0.5-10% of the weight of the total dosage form.

Claim 24 (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) A composition according to claim ~~24~~ 23, wherein ~~said additional~~ the controlled release polymeric layer is composed of a hydrophobic polymer mixed with an appropriate hydrophobic or hydrophilic plasticizer.

26. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 25, wherein said hydrophobic polymer is Eudragit or a cellulose derivative, and said plasticizer is selected from the group consisting of castor oil, dibutyl sebacate, glyceryl monostearate, diethyl phalate, glyceryl trihepthanoate, and triethyl citrate.

27. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 26, which comprises 2-15% of the hydrophobic polymer per weight of the total dosage form; and 0.1-2% per weight of the hydrophobic plasticizer per weight of the total dosage form.

28. (Previously Presented) A composition according to claim 12, which comprises 2-15% of the hydrophobic polymer per weight of the total dosage form; and 0.1-2% per weight of the hydrophobic plasticizer per weight of the total dosage form.

29. (Currently Amended) An extended release dosage form, comprising

Venlafaxine Hydrochloride in an amount of 30-60% based on the total weight of said dosage form;

said Venlafaxine Hydrochloride being coated on a non-pareil inert core, said non-pareil inert core comprising 30-60% of the total dosage form;

the Venlafaxine Hydrochloride being optionally connected to a binder in a binder amount of 0.5-10% of the total dosage form;

~~optionally,~~ an isolating/protecting/separating polymeric layer coating said Venlafaxine Hydrochloride, ~~said~~

~~optional polymeric layer~~ and comprising 0.5-10% of the total dosage form; and

a control release layer coated over said ~~optional isolating/protecting/separating polymeric layer when present, or over said Venlafaxine Hydrochloride when said isolating/protecting/separating layer is not present,~~ said control release layer comprising a hydrophobic polymer optionally mixed with a plasticizer, said hydrophobic polymer comprising 2-15% of the total dosage form, and said optional plasticizer when present comprising 0.1-2% of the total dosage form;

said control release layer constituting means to control release of the Venlafaxine Hydrochloride over an approximately 24 hour period.

30. (Currently Amended) The unit dosage form of claim 29 comprising hydroxypropylmethylcellulose in at least one of said additional polymeric layer, said ~~optional~~ isolating/protecting/separating layer and said optional binder.